

## Hoover's FBI

Since J. Edgar Hoover died ("Life With a Tyrant," Sept. 23), an amazing assortment of cowards have surfaced to make derogatory allegations concerning him and the activities of the FBI during his tenure. None had the courage to air his faults, idiosyncracies or other peculiarities, if they existed, while he was alive and able to defend himself.

William Sullivan, if he in fact collaborated with Bill Brown, demonstrated a lack of integrity. If FBI activities during his long tenure in responsible positions were so repugnant to him, it seems that a man of high integrity would have resigned and called attention to these matters. Apparently he chose to remain silent and accept a paycheck.

The article is replete with unprovable statements and "gray areas," but one which I can personally label as 100 percent false is that which states: "Until the 1940s

Catholics were kept out of the bureau along with blacks, Jews and Hispanics."

I am a Catholic, entered the bureau in 1934, and five or six other Catholics were in the class of about 25. The agent who conducted the primary investigation of me, I later learned, was Al Rosen, a Jew, who served for almost 40 years and had a distinguished career. Fred Guerrero, a Filipino, served with me in St. Paul, Minn., and Jim Amos, a Negro, was an agent in the New York office . . . just to name a few of the so-called "excluded."

Charlie Winstead was a close personal friend of mine and the quotes attributed to him are very unlike Charlie in their content and language. Charlie, of course, is conveniently dead also.

Hoover's long service to the country and the achievements of the FBI during his long tenure speak eloquently for themselves. It is most unbecoming of The Washington Post to attempt to tarnish Hoover, a strict, fair disciplinarian, or the FBI, with a repetition of minor shortcomings.

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